

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ADDIS 08352 171607Z

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 NEA-14 PM-07 NSC-07 SP-03 SS-20

RSC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00 PA-04 USIA-15

PRS-01 DRC-01 IO-14 /142 W
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P R 171437Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 112

AMCONSUL ASMARA

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

USUN NY PRIORITY 1566

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 8352

NOFORN

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS PINT OVIP (GEBRE-SELASSIE, ZEWDE) ET

SUBJ: ETHIOPIAN FORMIN TO US?

1. WELLPLACED MOFA SOURCE INFORMED US JULY 17 IN REPLY QUESTION THAT DATE OF FORMIN'S RETURN TO ADDIS FROM CURRENT KINSHASA-TEHRAN JAUNT UNKNOWN. MOFA OFF "UNDERSTOOD" FORMIN ENROUTE TO NEW YORK VIA LONDON "TO SEE RELATIVES." SOURCE SPECULATED ONLY HALF FACETIOUSLY IT SEEMED, THAT ZEWDE MIGHT INITATE MINIFO AHADOU SABOURE WHO REPORTEDLY "DIRECTING" HIS MINISTRY FROM DJIBOUTI, WHERE HE WAS ETHIOPIA'S CONGEN UNTIL NAMED TO HIS CURRENT POSITION.

2. COMMENT: WE HAVE NO RPT NO REASON BELIEVE ZEWDE INTENDS REMAIN ABROAD FOR ANY UNUSUAL LENGTH OF TIME. ON OTHER HAND, EMBASSY WOULD NORMALLY EXPECT BE OFFICIALLY INFORMED IF FORMIN GOING TO US AND THIS HAS NOT OCCURRED. SOURCE COULD BE MISINFORMED AND ZEWDE COULD BE PLANNING RETURN ADDIS ABOUT JULY 20-22, AS WE HAVE ALSO HEARD, AFTER TRANSACTING HIS BUSINESS IN LONDON.
WYMAN

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